

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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✓
The most commonly used cell transmigration assay is a modified "Boyden chamber" assay such as described in US Patent No. 5578492 (Fedun et al). This involves assessing the crossing of a quantity of cells through a microporous membrane under the influence of a chemoattractant, recombinant or cell-derived. Here the diameter of the micropores are less than the diameter of the cells under investigation, such that the cells must deform themselves in order to squeeze through the pores thereby constructing an analogy to the transendothelial migration of cells in physiological circumstances. Once the cells are deposited onto the membrane, the chamber can be incubated for intervals over time at a suitable temperature, usually 37°. Following this, the bottom chamber or opposite side of the top chamber may be analyzed for cells that have squeezed through the microporous membrane. ✓

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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US Patent Nos. 4912057 (Guirguis et al), 5284753 (Goodwin et al), 5302515 (Goodwin et al), 5514555 (Springer et al) and 5601997 (Tchao) are typical examples of these assays. The main disadvantage of the assays described in those specifications is

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that the biological process of transmigration through the micropores is difficult to observe due to the geometrical configuration of the apparatus involved. The lens of the optically inverted microscope must be able to focus through the lower chamber and the microporous membrane. This obviously leads to difficulties due to optical aberrations. In effect, the study of the cells morphology changes while transmigrating across the membrane and their subsequent cytoskeletal changes reverting to their former state is a process which is difficult to monitor and record due to limitations with current techniques. In addition, although it is possible to alter such an experiments parameters following the initiation of the experiment, such as the introduction of a second chemoattractant, recombinant or cell-derived, at some specified time after commencing the experiment, it is not possible to distinguish separate effects from each said chemoattractant. *ft*

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please cancel claims 2 and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

✓
Please amend claims as follows:

- 3
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1. (Amended) A biological assay method comprising: